III

ANNOUNCEMENT REGARDING THE APPOINTMENT OF CHAIRMEN OF SELECT COMMITTEES ON CERTAIN BILLS.

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" As Mahmud Schamnad Sahib Bahadur has resigned the chairmanship of the select committee on the Indian Fisheries Act (Amendment) Bill, I hereby appoint Mr. C. E. Wood as the Chairman.

"I also appoint Mr. S. Satyamurti as the Chairman of the Select Committee on the Jain Succession Bill and Mr. Siva Rao as the Chairman of the Select Committee on the Village Officers Bill.

" As regards the Andhra University Act (Amendment) Bills for which the select committee was appointed yesterday, I think that I am included in the select committee with the object of having the select committee presided over by myself."

IV

ADJOURNMENT MOTION REGARDING KOILKUNTLA SHOOTING AFFAIR.

* Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" I beg leave to move under Standing Order 20 for an adjournment of the House to draw attention to the conduct of the police in the Koilkuntla shooting affair."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Will the hon. Member satisfy me as to how the matter is urgent and one of recent occurrence ? "

* Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" On the question of the matter being one of recent occurrence, I may be permitted to point out that the Council did not meet till August."

*The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" When did the event take place ? "

* Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" The event took place on the 5th of July 1927. I brought forward this issue for a special resolution. I was told that the matter was *sub judice*. As the restriction regarding matters *sub judice* holds good for adjournment motions also, I could not bring forward an adjournment motion then. The day before yesterday I renewed my application for leave to move a special resolution and I have received no intimation up to this moment. I have therefore considered it necessary to bring forward this motion for adjournment of the House to-day. That is with regard to the matter being of recent occurrence. As regards urgency, we heard the hon. the Law Member say that the District Court having delivered judgment, it is under the consideration of the Government. The shooting down of eight people where there were admittedly not more than 50 or 60 and where there were, admittedly again, not more than 28 old fashioned arms is not a matter that can be taken lightly by the Government."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I am afraid the hon. Member is going into the merits of the case."

*Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO : —" Sir, I am only arguing the matter, as to the urgency of it. The urgency arises in this manner, that the Government have to be appraised of the importance of the question immediately so that they may take proper measures to institute an enquiry. Yesterday we were told that the Government had not made up their mind as to the form of the enquiry, whether there should be a committee, and we were also told that the question was under consideration by the Government. Before they take any step, it is essential that we should express our views on the matter and in that way, I submit, it is an urgent question."

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* The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—" Mr. President, Sir, I submit that the question is not an urgent one at the present time. For, as the hon. Member has stated, this occurrence took place on the 5th of July and on the 19th July the Government published the reports of the Subdivisional Magistrate and the District Magistrate on their enquiries. Since then, the case has been before the courts and the Government are now considering what should be done, having seen the copies of the judgments of the courts. It is, I think, undesirable that there should be any pre-judging, in this Council, of this case. If the hon. Member has any matters on which he desires that enquiries should specially be made, I should be glad to consider them on receiving a memorandum from him. I submit therefore, it is not urgently necessary to bring a motion before the House at this stage."

* The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" Though the matter was *sub judice* when the Council met in August 1927 and has since been removed from the Courts that by itself will not have the effect of converting it into one of recent occurrence. Nor am I convinced that it is urgent. I therefore rule it out of order." 12 noon.

V

MOTIONS ON MATTERS OF GENERAL PUBLIC INTEREST.

COMMITTEE TO ENQUIRE INTO THE GRIEVANCES OF NON-GAZETTED OFFICERS—*cont*.

The Council then resumed discussion of the resolution regarding non-gazetted officers.

* Mr. G. HARISARVOTTAMA RAO :—" I rise to support this motion for the obvious reason that the necessity for a committee has been recognized not only by the non-gazetted officers, not only by the non-official members of this House but also, by implication, by an earlier committee that took into consideration certain aspects of the grievances of the non-gazetted officers. In 1921, Sir, there was a committee appointed which submitted an interim report, and that report, as far as I understand, has not been completed. In that report itself, the committee laid emphasis upon certain aspects. It said that it was of the decided opinion that revision of pay and prospects of the services should have been begun at the bottom. It also said that it was its considered opinion that the reorganization of the pay and prospects of the higher services needed further scrutiny, with a view to retrenchment. You will find by going through the report that the committee, even when it submitted an interim report, did not take into consideration the grievances of certain classes of non-gazetted officers. The higher rungs of office have their own advantage. Whenever an I.C.S. officer wants an enhancement of his emoluments and whenever he wants an advance of his convenience, he is able to easily get a Royal Commission to enquire into his grievances. The higher officers also come into line with him because they are entitled in time to the privileges of the I.C.S. officers. But the poor lower officials, the non-gazetted officers, are left absolutely in the cold because, for one thing, they are subordinates and they cannot raise their voice against the high officers, and, for another, they cannot catch the ear of the higher administrative authorities. It is a fact that even since 1921 circumstances have changed, and even since then, the I.C.S officers and others concerned have had their promotion. Not